

Attorney Docket No.: P-4333-US3

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment and Response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 43-47 and 49-52 are pending in the application. Claims 43-47 and 49-52 have been rejected.

In response, Claims 43 and 47 have been amended, and Claim 46 has been canceled. Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. No new matter has been added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

**35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections over Saito et al.
in view of Fukahara et al. and Honda et al.**

In the final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 43-46 and 49-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Saito et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,184,922 B1) in view of Fukahara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,862) and Honda et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0225223).

Claim 46 has been canceled. Applicant has made amendments to independent claim 43 to include "a controller to... post-process the interpolated image data by applying a median filter". In view of this amendment, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Applicant asserts that Saito does not teach or suggest performing a post-process on the interpolated image data by applying a median filter, as required by Applicant's independent claim 43 as amended. Neither Saito nor Fukuhara nor Honda do not teach or suggest any processing method comprising applying a median filter, and therefore a combination of Saito, Fukuhara and Honda does not teach or suggest a controller to post-process the interpolated image data by applying a median filter. Applicant therefore

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asserts that independent claim 43 as amended is allowable over Saito in view of Fukuhara and in further view of Honda.

As discussed above, independent claim 43 as amended is patentable over Saito in view of Fukuhara and Honda. Each of claims 44, 45 and 49-52 is dependent on amended independent claim 43 and includes all the limitations of this claim. Therefore, dependent claims 44, 45 and 49-52 are likewise allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered even after final rejection, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, as this amendment does not present new issues for consideration by the Examiner. The Amendment to claim 43 incorporates the limitations of claim 46, now canceled, and thus no new issue is presented, since claim 46 had previously been before the Examiner.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully request that the rejection of claims 43-46 and 49 under 35 USC §103(a) in view of Saito in view of Fukuhara and in further view of Honda be withdrawn.

**35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections over Saito et al.
in view of Fukahara et al, Honda et al and He et al**

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Saito et al. (US 6,184,922) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,501,862 to Fukahara et al. in view of Honda (US 2004/0225223) and in further view of He et al. (US 6,600,517).

Claim 47 has been amended herein to include only the method of color suppression. Claim 47 further depends on amended claim 43, and claim 43 is allowable in view of the above. Neither Saito nor Fukuhara nor Honda nor He, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests a system comprising, inter alia, a controller to post-process the selected image data by applying color suppression techniques in addition to applying a median filter.

Therefore, dependent claim 47 is allowable in view of Saito, Fukuhara, Honda and in further view of He. Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered even after final rejection, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, as this amendment does not present new issues for consideration by the Examiner. The Amendment to claim 47

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deletes all but one means of post processing from a Markush group of the same, and thus no new issue is presented, since this limitation of claim 47 had previously been before the Examiner.


Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, pending claims 43-45, 47 and 49-52 are allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

No fees are believed to be due associated with this paper. However, if any such fees are due, please charge such fees to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,



Morey B. Wildes
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 36,968

Dated: November 12, 2007

Pearl Cohen Zedek Latzer LLP.
1500 Broadway, 12th Floor
New York, New York 10036
Tel: (646) 878-0800
Fax: (646) 878-0801